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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION Anzona Commission 1 2 **COMMISSIONERS** DOCKETED 2013 AUG -9 P 2: 44 3 BOB STUMP - Chairman AUG - 9 2013 **GARY PIERCE** CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL 4 **BRENDA BURNS** DOCKETED BY **BOB BURNS** 5 SUSAN BITTER SMITH 6 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. W-02026A-11-0470 DARRELL WALLACE DBA BIDEGAIN WATER 7 COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A PERMANENT RATE INCREASE. 8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. W-02026A-12-0378 DARRELL WALLACE DBA BIDEGAIN WATER COMPANY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF 10 CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER SERVICE IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA. PROCEDURAL ORDER 11 12 BY THE COMMISSION: 13 On December 27, 2011, in Docket No. W-02026A-11-0470, Bidegain Water Company 14 ("BWC" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an 15 application for a permanent increase in its water rates and charges ("Rate Case Docket"). 16 On January 26, 2012, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") issued, in the Rate Case 17 Docket, a Notice of Insufficiency pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") R14-2-103. 18 On March 9, 2012, Staff issued a Letter of Sufficiency in the Rate Case Docket, stating that 19 BWC's rate application had met the sufficiency requirements of the A.A.C. 20 On May 9, 2012, Staff filed a Staff Report in the Rate Case Docket, recommending approval 21 of Staff's proposed rates and charges, but recommending that the new rates not take effect until after 22 the Company had received a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N"). 23 On May 25, 2012, by Procedural Order, the Company was ordered to file an application for 24 approval of a CC&N, and the timeclock in the rate case proceeding was suspended. 1 25

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Procedural Order stated that Bidegain's CC&N had been revoked in Decision No. 65649 (February 18, 2003) due to the Company's failure to file its 2001 Annual Report, that the Company's original owners were now deceased, and that the water system had been sold to Mr. Darrell Wallace in 2003.

On August 29, 2012, in Docket No. W-02026A-12-0378, BWC filed with the Commission an application for a CC&N to provide water utility services in Pinal County ("CC&N Docket").

On September 27, 2012, Staff issued a Letter of Insufficiency in the CC&N Docket, stating that BWC's CC&N application had not met the sufficiency requirements pursuant to the A.A.C.

On March 13, 2013, Staff issued a Letter of Sufficiency with respect to the Company's CC&N application in the CC&N Docket.

On March 21, 2013, a Procedural Order was issued in the CC&N Docket, setting a hearing on BWC's CC&N application for May 16, 2013.

On April 15, 2013, Staff filed a Staff Report in the CC&N Docket, recommending approval of the CC&N application with conditions.

On May 13, 2013, BWC filed, in the CC&N Docket, an affidavit of publication and mailing of notice of the application and hearing date.

On May 16, 2013, a full public hearing on BWC's CC&N application was commenced as scheduled before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge of the Commission. Staff appeared through counsel, and BWC failed to appear for the hearing. The hearing was continued.

On June 12, 2013, by Procedural Order, the hearing on BWC's CC&N application was reset to commence on July 30, 2013; the owner of BWC, Mr. Darrell Wallace, was ordered to appear for the hearing; and the Company was ordered to be prepared to give testimony and to provide evidence at the hearing demonstrating why it is a fit and proper entity to receive a CC&N to provide water utility services in Arizona. Further, BWC was directed to notify the Commission, prior to the hearing, of the names of any witnesses the Company planned to call at the hearing; and was ordered to file any objections to the CC&N Docket Staff Report. Also, the timeclock was suspended for the CC&N Docket.

On June 17, 2013, in the CC&N Docket, BWC's Owner, Mr. Darrell Wallace filed an affidavit stating that as of June 1, 2013, he had appointed Karen A. Samuel as treasurer of the Company and requesting that Ms. Samuel be allowed to represent BWC at the CC&N hearing. Further, Mr. Wallace requested that Ms. Samuel be allowed to testify regarding the CC&N application.

On June 21, 2013, a Procedural Order was issued in the CC&N Docket scheduling a telephonic pre-hearing conference was scheduled to discuss the procedural posture for the hearing set for July 30, 2013.

On July 9, 2013, a procedural conference was held as scheduled for the CC&N Docket. Ms. Karen Samuel appeared telephonically on behalf of BWC. Staff appeared through counsel. Discussion was held regarding the necessity for Mr. Wallace, as the sole owner of BWC, to appear personally for the hearing.

On July 30, 2013, the hearing in this matter was held as scheduled. Mr. Wallace appeared on behalf of BWC and Staff appeared through counsel. Mr. Wallace presented testimony and Staff presented evidence and testimony on the CC&N application.

Because the Rate Case and CC&N dockets are substantially related, it is reasonable to consolidate the Rate Case Docket and the CC&N Docket for the purpose of resolving these matters. Due to the passage of time, it is appropriate to direct Staff to review its prior Staff Report filed in the Rate Case Docket and to file a Supplemental Staff Report updating any information and/or making any revisions to Staff's recommendations that Staff deems necessary. Further, it is appropriate to provide BWC with additional time to respond to Staff's Supplemental Staff Report.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Docket Nos. W-02026A-11-0470 and W-02026A-12-0378 are hereby consolidated for the purpose of resolving of these matters.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Staff shall file, no later than September 6, 2013, a Supplemental Staff Report updating any information in, and/or making any revisions to Staff's recommendations in the Rate Case Docket Staff Report.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that BWC may file, no later than October 4, 2013, any objections to the Supplemental Staff Report.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the *Ex Parte* Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113 – Unauthorized Communications) continues to apply to these proceeding and shall remain in effect until the Commission's Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties must comply with Supreme Court Rules 31 and 38 and A.R.S. § 40-243 with respect to practice of law and admission *pro hac vice*.

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Administrative Law Judge may rescind, alter,
2	amend, or waive any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by
3	ruling at hearing.
4	DATED this day of August, 2013
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6	Mellettinsey
7	YVETTE B. KINSEY ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
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9	Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered this day of August, 2013 to:
10	Darrell Wallace BIDEGAIN WATER COMPANY
11	P.O. Box 538 Kearny, Arizona 85137
12	Darrell Wallace
13	BIDEGAIN WATER COMPANY
14	c/o Samuel Accounting Service 247 South Hill Street Globe, AZ 85501
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16	Janice Alward, Chief Counsel Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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19	Steven M. Olea, Director Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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22	By: Tammy Velarie
23	Assistant to Yvette B. Kinsey
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